

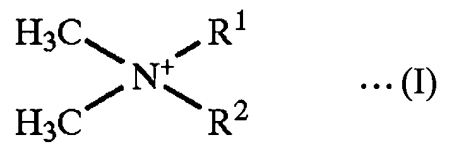
**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the subject application:

**Listing of Claims:**

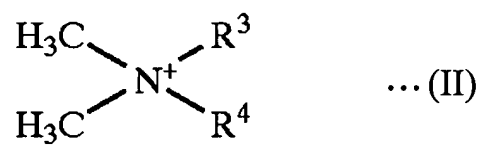
**Claim 1 (canceled)**

**Claim 2 (currently amended):** ~~The gel composition according to claim 1~~ A gel composition comprising a cation-modified clay mineral, wherein cations of said cation-modified clay mineral comprise quaternary ammonium cations represented by Formula (I):



wherein R<sup>1</sup> is a C<sub>1-9</sub> alkyl group, a phenyl group, or a C<sub>7-9</sub> aralkyl group that is an aryl ring with a 1 to 3 carbon substituent, and R<sup>2</sup> is a C<sub>10-36</sub> alkyl group;

and Formula (II):



wherein R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> are independent from each other and each represents a C<sub>10-36</sub> alkyl group; and

wherein said cation-modified clay mineral comprises a the cation-modified clay mineral A whose cation is the quaternary ammonium cation represented by the Formula (I) and a the cation-modified clay mineral B whose cation is the quaternary ammonium cation represented by the Formula (II) in a weight ratio of A:B from 55:45 to 99.9:0.1.

**Claim 3 (original):** The gel composition according to claim 2, wherein the weight ratio of A : B is from 60:40 to 80:20.

**Claim 4 (currently amended):** The gel composition according to claim 2 ~~1~~, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is benzyl group.

**Claim 5 (currently amended):** The gel composition according to claim 2 ~~1~~, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is methyl group.

**Claim 6 (currently amended):** The gel composition according to claim 2 ~~1~~, wherein R<sup>2</sup> is a C<sub>16-18</sub> alkyl group.

**Claim 7 (currently amended):** The gel composition according to claim 2 ~~1~~, wherein each of R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> is a C<sub>16-18</sub> alkyl group.

**Claim 8 (currently amended):** The gel composition according to claim 2 ~~1~~, wherein a host clay mineral of said cation-modified clay mineral is montmorillonite or hectorite.

**Claim 9 (currently amended):** The gel composition according to claim 8 ~~1~~, wherein the host clay mineral of said cation-modified clay mineral is montmorillonite.

**Claim 10 (currently amended):** A nail enamel comprising the gel composition according to claim 2 ~~1~~.